

ELECTRIC NORTH EAST ENGLAND

NORTH EAST ENGLAND IS THE PREMIER LOCATION FOR INVESTMENT IN ELECTRIFICATION TECHNOLOGIES.

The North East is rapidly emerging as the UK leader in the electric vehicle and battery sectors.

The region has long been at the forefront of the electrification of surface transport and is home to Europe's first electric battery gigafactory with two new facilities announced in 2021. Recent investments from Britishvolt, Nissan/ Envision AESC and Turntide Technologies, total over £3.75bn. The sector could create up to 78,000 new jobs in the UK by 2040, with the North East ideally positioned to be UK's prime location for investment in electrification technologies.

The region is home to a unique and comprehensive asset base for innovating and demonstrating solutions across the whole energy system. For the electrification sector, these assets provide world-leading research and a powerful testbed which is used by international businesses, SMEs, and policymakers. Significant assets and expertise in battery technology exists across the whole battery life-cycle from formulation and advanced materials to second life applications, energy storage and vehicle to grid technology.

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Why do businesses choose to locate in North East England?



Home to Europe’s first EV battery production facility Nissan/Envision AESC. Envision AESC recently announced a new 35GWh battery plant in Sunderland, and Britishvolt are building the UK’s first significant EV battery gigafactory with a capacity of 30GWh



A region internationally renowned for its vibrant, world-leading cluster of companies engaged in electrification technology and one of the most productive automotive manufacturing plants in Europe



The North East offers access to a well-established local supply chain and a manufacturing ecosystem extending to assembly, robotics and automated technology



The region has one of the most solid, reliable and sustainable workforces in the UK. It is renowned for its exceptional productivity and loyalty with one of the UK’s lowest staff turnover rates. The region employs more than 82,000 engineering workers as part of a wider manufacturing sector employing over 116,000



A pipeline of new talent. With more than 120,000 students across the region’s five universities and specialist training providers that provide bespoke automotive and advanced manufacturing training facilities



North East England has a wide range of proactive industry networks and innovation centres leading the way in electrification, robotics and automotive alongside world class facilities for R&D



Excellent connectivity with two international airports, an exceptional national rail network, strategic road network and the UK’s largest rapid transit system outside London, the Tyne and Wear Metro, allowing executive and workforce movement throughout the region and the UK



North East England has a broad range of excellent sites and premises ranging from brand new factories on modern advanced manufacturing parks, to design and build options, many benefiting from Enterprise Zone benefits

Electric vehicle hub and supporting ecosystem

North East England is home to Europe's most successful Electric Vehicle (EV) – the Nissan Leaf, as well as its first battery gigafactory, and has full power electronics, motors and drives capability.

Envision AESC, a world-leading manufacturer of lithium-ion batteries for the automotive industry and has been producing batteries in Sunderland for the Nissan LEAF electric vehicle for nearly a decade. In 2021 it announced plans for a new 35GWh battery plant at the International Advanced Manufacturing Park. The new gigafactory will be capable of producing batteries to power more than 100,000 electric vehicles per year. It will be powered by 100% renewable energy and supported by a 'microgrid'.

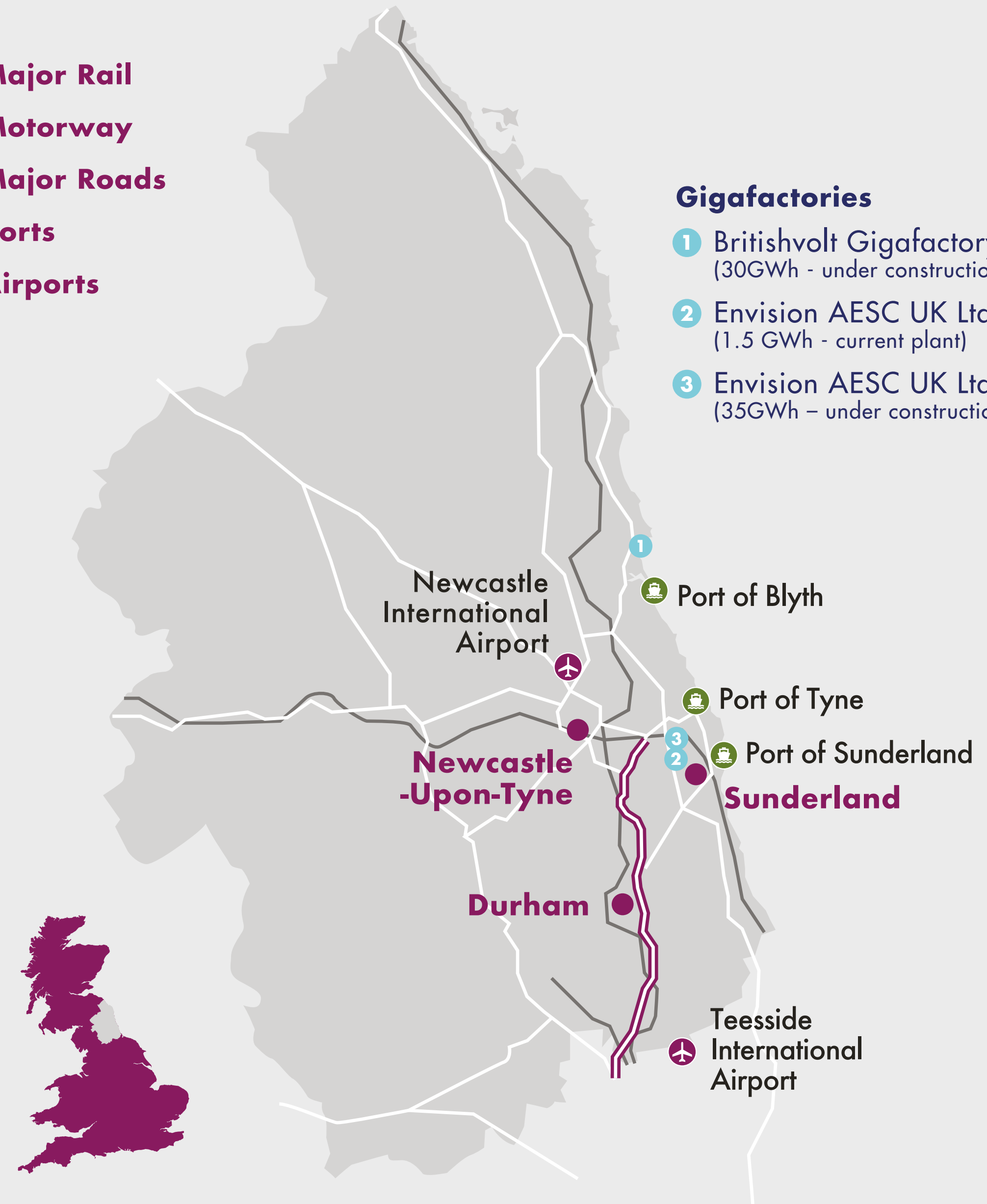
In Northumberland, Britishvolt is powering ahead with its plans for its first full-scale electric battery gigafactory, a 30GWh facility which is receiving support from the UK Government through its Automotive Transformation Fund, delivered by the Advanced Propulsion Centre.

The region is also home to leading-edge R&D linked to EV technology. Local companies are world leaders in the manufacture of innovative EV products, including AEM, Curtis Instrumental, Siaetta Group, and US tech giant, Turntide Technologies – who recently acquired North East based Hyperdrive Innovation, Borg-Warner and Avid Technology.

- Major Rail
- Motorway
- Major Roads
- Ports
- Airports

Gigafactories

- 1 Britishvolt Gigafactory (30GWh - under construction)
- 2 Envision AESC UK Ltd Gigafactory (1.5 GWh - current plant)
- 3 Envision AESC UK Ltd Gigafactory (35GWh - under construction)



Key Assets and Resources

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Driving the Electric Revolution Industrial Centre (DER-IC)

Driving the Electric Revolution Industrial Centre is led by Newcastle University and provides open-access facilities with state-of-the-art equipment, bringing together technology and manufacturing expertise in electrification research and development. Newcastle University is heading up a consortium aiming to establish the UK as a global leader in the field of power electronics, electric machines & drives. The university is recognised for its research and expertise in this field. Sunderland will be home to one of four DER centres nationally, with a focus on prototyping and scale-up of new motor technologies.



North East Automotive Alliance

The North East Automotive Alliance is an industry-led cluster group, established to support the economic sustainable growth and competitiveness of the sector in North East England. The network provides dedicated programmes to support automotive companies in workforce development, markets and supply chain.



The North East Battery Alliance (NEBA)

NEBA is led by Newcastle University and aims to build on the North East’s existing strengths in electrification, automotive, and advanced manufacturing to raise awareness of the North East as a leading hub for the battery industry.



Newcastle University

Hosts the Advanced Propulsion Centre UK ‘spoke’ specialising in electric machines, which acts as a national focal point for R&D, bringing together academic and industrial expertise in order to develop and commercialise new technologies. A consortium led by The Faraday Institution is currently developing innovative solid-state battery technology. Newcastle University is a founder member of The Faraday Institution, a network of top academic institutions working with industry partners to develop the next generation of batteries. Within the context of the UK Government’s Faraday Battery Challenge, the university is undertaking leading-edge research with enormous commercialisation potential.



Centre for Process Innovation (CPI)

CPI helps companies develop, prove, scale up and commercialise new products and services. CPI has cross-sector expertise and knowledge to drive innovation in product formulation and process optimisation across a wide range of market sectors. Focus areas include sustainable battery materials, improving battery efficiency and recycling, sustainable polymers, and sustainable composites and advanced materials, all underpinned by advanced digital solutions and sustainable process technologies.

Our service

Invest North East England is the first point of contact for companies looking to locate or expand to our region.

Our highly experienced team connects businesses to the region’s network of specialist organisations and individuals, and provides the information, support and advice essential for businesses looking to locate in North East England.

We co-ordinate investment enquiries on behalf of our region’s local authorities to ensure businesses are able to make the best decisions based on a wide array of information.

Our team has access to the UK Government, support agencies, sector specialists, universities, colleges, knowledge networks, finance streams and business organisations, helping your transition and move to North East England run smoothly.

Invest North East England supports businesses with a whole range of practical relocation support and advice including:



Advice on availability of land and property and costs



HR support, including wage comparisons, training, recruitment and local market information



Information and statistics on the local economy, demographics, infrastructure and labour market



Support for key employees and their families moving to the area



Organising visits to the region and meetings with key stakeholders



Introductions to supply chain knowledge networks and technological expertise



Access to finance – guidance on the availability of financial assistance and grants



A personal Account Manager dedicated to your project with a full aftercare programme

Want to take the next step in locating or expanding your business in North East England, or just need to find out more?

[Get in touch today >](#)



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